



BUILDING CODE DESIGN CRITERIA

CONSTRUCTION CODES

Commercial

2006 International Building Code
2006 International Fire Code
2006 Uniform Mechanical Code
2006 Uniform Plumbing Code
2011 National Electrical Code - **Effective September 1, 2011**
2009 International Energy Conservation Code, or
ASHRAE 90.1-2007- **Effective September 2, 2011**

Residential

2006 International Residential Code
2009 International Energy Conservation Code

Note: All construction codes on this list have been amended by the City of Houston. To access the amendments, visit:
<http://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/code-enforcement/publications.html>

STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS

Basic Wind Speed **110 mph (3-second gust)**
Seismic Design Category **A**
Weathering Probability **Negligible (IRC)**
Roof Design Load ** **IRC (20-lbs/sq. ft.)**
Typical (Equation 16-27) **IBC ($L_r = L_o R_1 R_2$)**

Soil Class **Expansive***
Wind Exposure Category **B***
Ground Snow Load **0**
Frost Line Depth **6 inches**
Maximum rainfall rate **8 inches/hour**

* These are general requirements for Houston and certain conditions may vary depending on the location.

** Minimum roof loads shall be designed for the specific conditions in accordance with IBC Sections 1607.11.2.1 through 1607.11.2.4; and IRC Section R301.6, and Tables R301.6 or R301.2 (1) whichever is greater.

ENERGY REQUIREMENTS

Heating Degree Days **1371** Climate Zone (Energy) **2-A**

PLUMBING REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Plumbing Fixtures See Table 2902.1 (of the Houston Amended Building Code)

OTHER GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Designs for Parking lots, Sidewalks and Driveways See Chapter 31 of the Building Code
The Life Safety Ordinance for existing buildings Appendix L of the Building Code

PLAN REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

- 2 Sets of plans
- Energy Code Form or Applicable Software Report (<http://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/code-enforcement/publications.html>)
- TDLR numbers for accessibility (<http://www.license.state.tx.us/ab/ab.htm#techinfo>)
- Asbestos Survey for existing building(s) – (TDH Toxic Substances Control Division • (800) 572-5548)

Note: This information is general in nature; for minimum submittal requirements, you may obtain a copy of the prerequisite checklist online or at the CACD office. For specific questions, consult with a Senior Plan Examiner (832) 394-8810 or Senior Inspector (832) 394-8840.

WEBSITE INFORMATION

Check plan review status and schedule inspections at - www.houstonpermits.com
Code Enforcement/Code Update website - www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/code-enforcement.html
Public Works and Engineering website - www.publicworks.houstontx.gov
Planning and Development website - www.houstonplanning.com
Fire Department website - www.houstonfire.com
City Website - www.houstontx.gov

For questions please contact Lisa F. Brown at 832-394-9039 or email at - lisa.brown@houstontx.gov